METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PURGING CONTENT
FROM A CONTENT DELIVERY NETWORK

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5   A content file purge mechanism for a content delivery network (CDN) that hosts third party content files on a network of geographically-dispersed content servers. A Web-enabled portal preferably is used by CDN customers to enter purge requests securely. A particular purge request

10   typically identifies a set of one or more content files to be purged from the content delivery network. The purge request is pushed over a secure link from the portal to a purge server, which validates purge requests from multiple CDN customers and batches the requests into an aggregate

15   purge request. The aggregate purge request is pushed over a secure link from the purge server to a set of staging servers throughout the content delivery network. Periodically, CDN content servers poll the staging servers to determine whether an aggregate purge request exists. If

20   so, the CDN content servers pull (or otherwise obtain) the aggregate purge request over a secure link and process the request to remove the identified content files from their local storage. Throughout the purge process, notifications are sent when purges are accepted, rejected, and upon

25   completion.